

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for automatically detecting a size of a detection object comprising:

~~a detection object whose size is to be detected;~~

~~a background panel which is arranged behind said detection object, said background panel having a mark as a standard and being longer than said detection object; and~~

~~a controller for optically scanning~~arranged to control an optical scan of said detection object and said background panel ~~from forth~~with said detection object arranged between said background panel and a scanning source, and to automatically detecting the size of said detection object on the basis of ~~a signal~~ signals obtained by electrically converting scanning light reflected light ~~from said background panel and said detection object.~~

2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for automatically detecting a size of a detection object comprising:

~~a detection object whose size is to be detected;~~

~~a background panel arranged behind said detection object, said background panel having a mark as a standard and a code pattern arranged along a length direction of said detection~~

object when said detection object is arranged for scanning,
~~and being longer than said detection object;~~ and

~~a controller for optically scanning~~arranged to control an
optical scan of said detection object and said background
panel from forthwith said detection object arranged between
said background panel and a scanning source, and to
automatically detecting the size of said detection object on
the basis of ~~a signals~~ obtained by electrically converting
~~reflected light~~scanning light from said background panel and
said detection object.

3. (Currently Amended) An automatic analyzer
comprising:

an analytical unit for analyzing components of a sample
which is an analytical object using a reagent, ~~a reagent~~
~~container for storing said reagent;~~

a sampler unit for holding said sample and executing a
pouring operation so as to transfer said sample of a volume
necessary ~~to~~ for analysis to said analytical unit;

_____ a controller for controlling said analytical unit and
said sampler unit; ~~and~~

a power unit for supplying power necessary for operations of said controller, said analytical unit, and said sampler unit to said respective units,

~~wherein an optical information reader for reading contents of a code pattern label attached to a container for storing said sample for an object of discrimination is installed, and~~including a background panel having a mark as a standard is installed behind said container when said container is arranged between said background panel and a scanning source; and

 means for optically scanning said background panel and said code pattern by said optical information reader, measuring a height of said container with said code pattern attached on the basis of a signal obtained by electrically converting reflected light, and transmitting a result indicating said measured height of said container and discrimination information of said code pattern to said controller ~~is provided.~~

4. (Currently Amended) An automatic analyzer comprising:

an analytical unit for analyzing components of a sample which is an analytical object using a reagent;

a reagent container for storing said reagent_{7i};
_____ sampler unit for holding said sample and executing a pouring operation so as to transfer said sample of a volume necessary ~~to~~for analysis to said analytical unit_{7i};
_____ a controller composed of an electron circuit including an MPU, a memory, an I/O unit, and a sequencer for processing information_{7i} and a storage unit_{7i} for controlling said analytical unit and said sampler unit_{7i} and
_____ a power unit for supplying power necessary for operations of said controller, said analytical unit, and said sampler unit_{7i} to said respective units;

~~wherein~~ an optical information reader for reading contents of a code pattern label attached to a container for storing said sample ~~for~~as an object of discrimination ~~is~~ installed, ~~and~~including a background panel having a mark as a standard ~~is~~ installed behind said container when said container is arranged between said background panel and a scanning source_{7i} and

_____ means for optically scanning said background panel and said code pattern by said optical information reader, measuring a height of said container with said code pattern attached on the basis of a signal obtained by electrically converting reflected light, and transmitting a result

indicating said measured height of said container and discrimination information of said code pattern to said controller ~~is provided~~.

5. (Original) An apparatus for automatically detecting a size of a detection object according to Claim 2, wherein said background panel includes an auxiliary symbol in a neighborhood of said mark as a standard.

6. (Original) An automatic analyzer according to Claim 3, wherein said background panel includes an auxiliary symbol in a neighborhood of said mark as a standard.

7. (Original) An automatic analyzer according to Claim 4, wherein said background panel includes an auxiliary symbol in a neighborhood of said mark as a standard.

8. (New) An apparatus for automatically detecting a size of a detection object, comprising:

a background panel having a mark as a standard;

an optical scanning information reader which reads a code pattern by means of scanning light; and

a controller arranged to control an optical scan of said detection object and said background panel with said detection object arranged between said background panel and a scanning source, and to automatically detect the size of said detection object on the basis of a signal obtained by electrically converting reflected light, said controller controlling said optical information reader to scan optically said detection object.

9. (New) An apparatus for automatically detecting a size of a detection object, comprising:

a background panel having a mark as a standard and a code pattern arranged along a length direction of said detection object when said detection object is arranged for scanning;

an optical scanning information reader which reads the code pattern by means of scanning light; and

a controller arranged to control an optical scan of said detection object and said background panel with said detection object arranged between said background panel and a scanning source and to automatically detect the size of said detection object on the basis of a signal obtained by electrically converting reflected light, said controller controlling said

optical information reader to scan optically said detection object.

10. (New) An apparatus for automatically detecting a size of a detection object, comprising:

a background panel having a mark as a standard;

an optical information reader for reading contents of a code pattern label attached to said detection object for discrimination; and

means for optically scanning said background panel and said code pattern by said optical information reader, measuring a size of said detection object with said code pattern attached on the basis of a signal obtained by electrically converting reflected light, and transmitting a result indicating said measured size of said detection object and discrimination information of said code pattern to said controller.